G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

1917.

(G.M.)

File No. 329-17

Serial Nos. 1-2

Later references.

Preserve

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Part B for Nov 1917

SUBJECT.

Principles to be observed during Minority Administrations in Native States.

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

G. R. S. III—1] 1917.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Gen: Mis)

NOTES.

File No. 329-17

FILE HEADING.

Minority Administrations in Native States.

From

No. Dated Received

Diary No.	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

NOTES—First Sheet.

WD 1232—GPB—20,000—18-11-16

ND 1233—GPB—60,000—1-12-16—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. of 191 .

D. O. No. 74814

The Palace,
Bangalore.
14th September 1917.

Do No. 72
Encl. three.

2 Letters & draft ltr to H.E. the Viceroy
15.9.17
Rec'd 16.9.17
17/9/17

My dear Sir,

His Highness will feel obliged if you will favour him with the draft of a reply to the enclosed letter received from His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject of the principles to be observed during Minority Administrations in Native States.

Yours sincerely,

Sir M. Visvesvaraya, K.C.I.E.,
Dewan of Mysore,
Bangalore.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD 1233—GPB—60,000—1-12-16—S.

Minority Administration in Native States. 3

G. R. S. III-2)

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. | of 191

Serial No.

3 A draft reply is putup.

Dewan) 18/9/17

1841/26-9-17

4 A copy the draft reply sent to Mr Campbell is placed on the file.

5 The Dewan desires that a few copies of the Govt of India Resolution as might be obtained, if possible, from the Residency.

26/9/17

Mr V.

Please address Resy Engr

GR 659.17

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT. V/KS GENERAL 28 SEP. 1917

7 Draft Do. dated 28/9/17

Dated 28/9/17

Issued 1

To The F. A. Resident No. 326 Dt 2. Oct. 1917.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

D.O.N 5235-Cus4-12

My dear sir,

With reference to your D.O. letter No.73 of the 14th instant, enclosing a letter from His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject of the minority administration in Native States, I send herewith, for His Highness' orders, the draft of a reply to His Excellency ~~the Viceroy.~~

Yours sincerely,

18.9.17

Dewan.

R.H. Campbell Esqr., C.I.E.

Fair Copy of the Draft

My honoured and valued friend,

I have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 1st instant and the copy of the resolution, enclosed therewith, on the subject of Minority Administrations in Native State.

The situation of a Native State during the minority of the Ruler is a peculiarly delicate and difficult one. The resolution deals with this difficult question in a cautious and sympathetic spirit. It deprecates radical changes in the administration and lays special emphasis on the careful adaptation of new measures to local conditions. The instructions laid down as to the training and utilisation of local talent in responsible administrative work also seem very desirable and salutary.

Based as they are on the collective opinion of several of my brother Ruling Princes, the principles enunciated in the resolution have my full acceptance, and I cordially share Your Excellency's belief that this statement of principles will be a valuable guide to all concerned with the progress and welfare of Native States.

I desire to express the

the high consideration which I
entertain for Your Excellency
and to subscribe myself,

Your Excellency's sincere
f r i e n d,

2824

ND 1233—GPB—60,000—1-12-16—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. 329 of 1917.

Serial No.	
1	Do. The H. a. Resident no. 826 & 2.10.17 Requests him to obtain & forward a few copies of the resolution of the Govt. of India on the subject.
2	From The Same office D.O. no. 7665 & 6.10.17 Forwards 4 copies of the resolution & Secy's order on the D.O.: — "U.S.T. Acknowledge with thanks. Submit the copies to Dewan" (Init) C.S.B 6.10.17 Draft submd. K.V. 12/10 10 Issued & returned 13/10/17
3	To The H. a. R. Pol 387 & 18.10.17 Acknowledges the receipt of the above Submd. copies of the resolution may be sent to the Dewan's office for submission to the Dewan. K.V. 19/10 Ref- proceedings & 13/10/17

Dewan)

2298/20/10/17.

Yes with pleasure 10/11/17 19/10/11/17

May be recorded in the Secretariat. I should be glad to have a note from the Chief Secretary as to the arrangements which must for indexing these Confidential Communications so that they may be easily set-at-rest with the Office Audit Branch should be asked to note. 9.11.17.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

(8

WD 1233—GPB—60,000—1-12-16—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | File No. of 191 .

Serial No.

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT VIII E. AUDIT. 11 NOV 1917

E.A.Mis 69. 11-11-17

GEN. & REV. SEC. V GENERAL 24 NOV. 19

Same extract & return file

nil

26/11/17

Extract taken & file noted to Br V.

24/11/17

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

(9

G. R. S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT 1/10

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

( )

, the 191

Confidential

Section 8M

File No. 329-1

Serial No. 1

D.O

Dett. No. 326

Date of issue 2nd Oct 19

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore

Signed by C Gulbaundra Iyer

Dear Sir,

I am desired to request that you will be so good as to obtain and forward to this Office from Baroda Durbar - a few copies of the recent resolution of the Govt of India on the subject of the principles to be observed during Minority Administrations in Native States.

Yours Sincerely

UJ 2/10/19

for

1/10

V 2

NO. 2824

CONFIDENTIAL.

BANGALORE.

6th October 1917.

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT
V
6 OCT. 1917

1917-18 14
SECTION 8M
D. O. No. 7665 329-17
SERIAL NO. 2

My dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O. letter of the October 1917, I send herewith four copies of the resolution of the Government of India on the subject of the Minority Administrations in Native States.

Yours sincerely
H S Lumsden

C. S. Balasundaram Iyer Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General Department.

(Confidential.)

No. 1894-I. A.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FOREIGN AND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

RESOLUTION.

Simla, the 27th August 1917.

The Government of India have for some time past devoted special consideration to the question of the principles which should be observed in connection with the administration of a Native State during a minority. The opinion of certain Ruling Princes and Chiefs and of Political Officers were obtained by the Government of India during Lord Hardinge's Viceroyalty and the question in some of its aspects came under discussion at the Conference of Ruling Princes and Chiefs recently held at Delhi. The Governor-General in Council, after full consideration of the views elicited, has, with the approval of the Secretary of State, decided that the policy of Government in the matter may appropriately be stated as follows:—

The Government of India recognise that they are the trustees and custodians of the rights, interests and traditions of Native States during a minority administration. Their general policy is laid down in the following extract from certain orders, which were issued some years ago for the guidance of Political Officers:—

> "The Governor-General in Council is opposed to anything like pressure on Darbars to introduce British methods of administration. He prefers that reforms should emanate from the Darbar, and grow up in harmony with the traditions of the State. Administrative efficiency is at no time the only or indeed the chief object to be kept in view. This should specially be borne in mind by officers charged temporarily with the administration of a State during a minority, whether they are in sole charge, or associated with a State Council. They occupy a position of peculiar trust, and should never forget that their primary duty is the *conservation* of the customs of the State. Abuses and corruption should be corrected as far as possible, but the general system of administration to which the Chief and the people have become accustomed should be unchanged in all essentials. The methods sanctioned by tradition in States are generally well adapted to the needs and relations of the Ruler and people. The loyalty of the latter to the former is generally a personal loyalty, which administrative efficiency, if carried out on lines unsuited to local conditions, would lessen or impair."

The Government of India realise that the special conditions of each State require special treatment and will be glad to receive and consider requests by individual Ruling Princes or Chiefs regarding any principles which they may wish to be adopted in the case of their own States or families. Due weight will be attached to wishes so expressed or to any written or verbal instructions left on record, but the Government of India on whom the final responsibility rests must reserve to themselves full freedom of action in dealing with such requests or instructions. Subject to the foregoing observations, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to lay down the following general

principles for the conduct of minority administrations. The announcement is subject to the reservation that the principles laid down will be liable to relaxation in individual cases where special conditions may render their strict application inappropriate :—

Principles to be observed during minority administrations.

(1) The administration of a State during a minority should ordinarily be entrusted to a Council. In cases where the appointment of a Regent is in accordance with the custom of the State and a suitable person is available for nomination as Regent the Council should be styled a "Council of Regency," and should consist of three to five Indian Members under the presidency of the Regent. The Regent may be either a legitimate mother or widow or a near male relative of the late Ruler, provided that the latter was in the full confidence of the late Ruler at the time of his demise. Where no Regent is available, the Council should be styled a "Council of Administration," and should consist of three to five Indian Members presided over by an Indian administrator of proved experience of Indian States.

In the selection of the Councillors, local talent should be utilised to the utmost possible extent—preference being always given to persons with vested interests in the State so long as they possess the requisite qualifications.

Where local conditions appear to render it impossible for a Council to administer the State successfully, an officer borrowed from Government service may be appointed as Superintendent or Administrator of the State.

Where expressly desired by the late Ruler the minority administration should in important matters consult with Ruling Princes or Chiefs nominated by him for this purpose.

(2) Old traditions and customs of the State should be scrupulously observed and maintained.

[The word "customs" includes, among other things—

(*a*) the payment to the minor Prince or Chief and to members of his family, on all occasions, of due consideration by all officers serving in the State ;

(*b*) the maintenance of the dignity of the minor Prince or Chief by the strict observance of the customary ceremonial honours and courtesies due to him by officers of the Imperial Government and by other Rulers ; and

(*c*) the performance on due date of religious ceremonies, festivals, and social observances, including the exchange of presents with other States.]

(3) The regulations and records embodying the established policy of the State should be carefully studied. Except in the case of obvious and unmistakeable abuses, radical changes (such as important constitutional reforms, alteration of the Court language or of the postal, taxation, or currency systems, etc.) should, as a general rule, be avoided. Any new measures adopted should, so far as circumstances permit, be grafted on and assimilated to existing institutions in the State, and should be so designed, introduced and carried into effect, that they can be continued by the regular administration after the termination of the minority. Where any radical change, or any important measure which is contrary to the express wishes or policy of the late Ruler, is proposed, the matter should be referred with full particulars to the Government of India for decision.

(4) For appointments in the State service local talent should be used wherever possible. Where local talent is not available, outsiders may be imported for special purposes, but these should be strictly required to conform to local conditions and customs and to show due respect to the members of the ruling family. When the services of outsiders are engaged, their deputation should ordinarily be liable to termination at the discretion of the Ruler after he receives his powers. Persons who are known to have been disloyal or obnoxious to the late Ruler or his family should not be appointed to State service during a minority.

(5) Treaty rights should be strictly upheld and measures involving any modification of existing treaties and engagements should be avoided. No alteration should be made affecting the recognised political status of fiefs under the suzerainty of a Darbar or their customary relations with the Ruler and his State.

(6) No jagirs or hereditary or personal honours and distinctions should be granted or promised on behalf of the State during the minority, nor should such jagirs, honours, &c., be confiscated except for disloyalty or gross misconduct. Customary jagirs and maintenance allowances granted by the late Ruler to members of the Ruling family and others should ordinarily be maintained, and no increase or decrease or new grant should be allowed except for special reasons and with the sanction of the Government of India or other political authority to whom this power may be delegated; such sanction would apply only to the period of the minority.

(7) Interference with the private property, estates, or establishments of members of the Ruling family should be avoided, and the customary and reasonable presents, easements, &c., to them and their dependents, should not ordinarily be curtailed.

(8) In States where a distinction is made between State and Privy Purse funds, the fixed Privy Purse allowance, if on a reasonable scale, should be paid by the State without reduction to the minor Ruler and kept in trust for him, together with the private property bequeathed to him by the late Ruler, until he attains majority. Expenditure from Privy Purse funds should be limited to the usual and customary items of expenditure.

(9) The sale of State jewellery during a minority should ordinarily be avoided. If such is found absolutely necessary to meet debts, great care should be taken in the selection of the articles to be sold, and the wishes of members of the Ruler's family should be consulted and respected. Proposals for such sales should be referred to Government and their sanction obtained before the proposal is carried out.

(10) No State territory or other immovable property should be exchanged, ceded, or sold during a minority.

(11) No permanent rights or privileges should be granted by the minority administration to jagirdars, officials or subjects of the State.

(12) No permanent or long-term commercial concessions or monopolies should ordinarily be granted to individuals or companies. It should, however, be borne in mind that neither individuals nor companies would be willing to sink any considerable capital sum in undertakings for short periods, and in each case, therefore, the rule must be applied cautiously with regard to the best interests of the State concerned, in order that the development of important and valuable industries may not be hindered.

(13) Expenditure on new palaces intended for a Ruler's own use should be avoided. Outlay on public works generally should be undertaken with due regard to economy and limited to necessary works. The expenditure should be so regulated as to come within the ordinary income of the year and to leave a substantial annual balance. Expenditure from surplus and reserve funds should be limited to really productive or protective works and should not be undertaken without careful examination and expert advice.

(14) Communication with the ladies of the palace should be conducted according to the custom of the State. Palace arrangements existing in the time of the late Ruler should not ordinarily be altered, and nothing should be done contrary to *zenana* etiquette and custom.

(15) The education and training of the young Ruler should be conducted on the lines laid down in the report* of the Committee convened to consider the matter. As a general rule it is preferable that he should receive his education in India rather than in Europe.

* *Vide* Appendix attached.

(16) Care should be taken to maintain shooting preserves and the necessary establishment for their maintenance, where such exists. Shooting rules and restrictions observed in the time of the late Ruler should be strictly enforced.

(17) The Political Officer is answerable to the Government of India for the maintenance of these principles. The degree of supervision to be exercised by him will depend on the circumstances of each particular case.

ORDERED that the Resolution be communicated to all* Local Governments and Administrations and to Political Officers in India, for information and guidance.

* Omitting Burma, North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan and Nepal.

J. B. WOOD,

Political Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

The Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad.

The Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.

The Resident at Baroda.

The Resident in Kashmir.

The Political Officer in Sikkim.

Appendix.

Report of the Committee convened to consider the question of the education and training of Minor Rulers.

For purposes of this discussion we have assumed that ruling powers will ordinarily be assumed by the Minor Ruler at the age of 18 years.

2. As a diversity of opinion exists as to the desirability of the Minor Prince receiving any portion of his training in Europe, the Committee are not in a position to make any recommendations on the subject.

3. Without attempting to draw up a regular curriculum, which can be safely left to those responsible for the scholastic education of the young Prince, we wish to emphasize that his studies should take such form as may best develop his mental faculties, and that it is most essential that he should acquire such a thorough knowledge of the English language as will enable him to talk and read it, and express and record his thoughts in that language with facility. He must also of course be thoroughly at home in the vernacular of his State.

4. Where such vernacular is not that generally spoken in other parts of India a colloquial knowledge of Hindi or Urdu is desirable.

5. During the period of his early education the Tutor or Guardian should ordinarily reside with the Minor Ruler and if possible two or three carefully selected companions of his own age should be associated with him. The Guardian should accompany him to College or superintend his education in his State, as the case may be, and while joining in his sports and games, be responsible for the strict bringing up of the Minor. He should also see that those responsible for the moral and religious teaching of the Minor Prince are not neglecting their duties. The Guardian should be in frequent communication with the Minor's mother or whoever stands "in loco parentis" and with his religious teachers, or any others in the State who are in a position to have a say in his bringing up and who are known to have his best interests at heart.

6. Two years before his coming of age or at about the age of 16th the Minor Ruler should begin his training in administration work. As a preliminary to his doing this it is essential that he shall be taught the principles of Law (Hindu, Muhammadan, and the most important Acts of the legislature) and be well grounded in the rules in force in his State governing all the important Departments. He should also be conversant with the principles of Budget and State Finance. He should then acquire knowledge of the working of the various Departments of the State, a selected official of the Department concerned attending and explaining the constitution and cost of the Department, and the way the work is carried on. Files of cases dealt with by the Department should then be studied. Under the guidance of his Guardian the young Ruler should make notes of what is shown him and it should rest with the Guardians to keep all important facts focussed before his memory. A number of files already dealt with and settled by the Department concerned can be gone through and the Minor Ruler taught to record the facts and write his decisions or orders on them. Every variety of Revenue, Jagir, and Succession case can be gone through in this manner, as also Civil and Criminal cases and appeals. The young Ruler should also attend Courts of Law and see how cases are conducted.

7. The Minor Ruler should tour in his State and thus acquire knowledge of localities, and of the people inhabiting them, as also of the local landowners and jagirdars. He should be shown in the most practical manner how survey and settlement work is done, how *jamabandi* is carried out, revenue collected and village records kept. He can be shown selected fields, and have the cost of production, the value of the crop, the State demand, and the profit left to the cultivator, all explained to him. He can study the indebtedness of cultivators and the interest they have to pay, and other economic problems connected with the welfare of the village community. He can also be shown the work of District Offices and Tahsils and the tour can be utilised to afford opportunities for the Minor Ruler to acquire facility in replying to addresses.

8. While practical training in administrative work is going on, the Minor Prince should also study with his Tutor theoretical problems bearing on such State work. He should also study important questions of the day, History, especially of India and his own State, Biographies, English Literature, and healthy books of fiction. The study of the systems of Parliamentary Government and of the British Government of India, &c., should also claim his attention. As the time draws near for the young Ruler to assume ruling powers, he should read up the correspondence between the British Government and the State and between the Ruler and his Ministers, and should study all the Treaties and Agreements between his State and the British Government. He should also attend meetings of the Council and take part in their deliberations.

9. The physical training including manly sports and games of the Minor Ruler is also of the highest importance and where possible his military training should be carried on in the State side by side with his administrative training.

10. Throughout the training of the Minor Ruler times should be fixed for him to meet his relations, and also for him to receive Nobles or others in audience in the presence of his Guardian.

11. Ordinarily it is not desirable that young Rulers should be absent from their States during the period of administrative training, except for necessary reasons or for a well-earned holiday.

12. Particular attention should be paid to the selection of a well qualified conscientious and sympathetic Tutor or Guardian of suitable age. The Minor Ruler's relations or those responsible for his bringing up should nominate the Tutor or Guardian for the approval of the Government of India.

13. In the event of the Minor Ruler being sent to Europe for any part of his education, it is essential that the principles, recorded herein, regarding proper supervision and guardianship, should apply. It is generally desirable, where possible, that the Minor Ruler should be accompanied by one or more relations or Sirdars, who would keep him in touch with the customs and manners of his own people or that such other arrangements as are possible should be made with this object in view.

SAYAJI RAO,
Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda.
RAO KHENGARJI,
Maharao of Cutch.
RANJIT SINHJI,
Jam Sahib of Navanagar.
TUKOJIRAO PUAR,
of Dewas (Senior).
JITENDRA NARAYAN BHUP,
of Cooch Behar.
JAGATJIT SINGH,
Maharaja of Kapurthala.
GANGA SINGH,
Maharaja of Bikaner.
BHAWANI SINGH,
Raj Rana of Jhalawar.
J. B. WOOD,
Political Secretary.
C. J. WINDHAM,
Resident, Western Rajputana States.
B. EGERTON,
Sadr-ul-Maham, Paigah, Hyderabad State.

F. & P. Dept. Press—No. 17—27-3-17—340.

(Confidential.)

No. 1894-I. A.

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FOREIGN AND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

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(*b*) the maintenance of the dignity of the minor Prince or Chief by the strict observance of the customary ceremonial honours and courtesies due to him by officers of the Imperial Government and by other Rulers ; and

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(13) Expenditure on new palaces intended for a Ruler's own use should be avoided. Outlay on public works generally should be undertaken with due regard to economy and limited to necessary works. The expenditure should be so regulated as to come within the ordinary income of the year and to leave a substantial annual balance. Expenditure from surplus and reserve funds should be limited to really productive or protective works and should not be undertaken without careful examination and expert advice.

(14) Communication with the ladies of the palace should be conducted according to the custom of the State. Palace arrangements existing in the time of the late Ruler should not ordinarily be altered, and nothing should be done contrary to *zenana* etiquette and custom.

(15) The education and training of the young Ruler should be conducted on the lines laid down in the report* of the Committee convened to consider the matter. As a general rule it is preferable that he should receive his education in India rather than in Europe.

* *Vide* Appendix attached.

(16) Care should be taken to maintain shooting preserves and the necessary establishment for their maintenance, where such exists. Shooting rules and restrictions observed in the time of the late Ruler should be strictly enforced.

(17) The Political Officer is answerable to the Government of India for the maintenance of these principles. The degree of supervision to be exercised by him will depend on the circumstances of each particular case.

ORDERED that the Resolution be communicated to all* Local Governments and Administrations and to Political Officers in India, for information and guidance.

* Omitting Burma, North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan and Nepal.

J. B. WOOD,

Political Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.
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The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of Assam.
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The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.
The Resident at Baroda.
The Resident in Kashmir.
The Political Officer in Sikkim.

Appendix.

Report of the Committee convened to consider the question of the education and training of Minor Rulers.

For purposes of this discussion we have assumed that ruling powers will ordinarily be assumed by the Minor Ruler at the age of 18 years.

2. As a diversity of opinion exists as to the desirability of the Minor Prince receiving any portion of his training in Europe, the Committee are not in a position to make any recommendations on the subject.

3. Without attempting to draw up a regular curriculum, which can be safely left to those responsible for the scholastic education of the young Prince, we wish to emphasize that his studies should take such form as may best develop his mental faculties, and that it is most essential that he should acquire such a thorough knowledge of the English language as will enable him to talk and read it, and express and record his thoughts in that language with facility. He must also of course be thoroughly at home in the vernacular of his State.

4. Where such vernacular is not that generally spoken in other parts of India a colloquial knowledge of Hindi or Urdu is desirable.

5. During the period of his early education the Tutor or Guardian should ordinarily reside with the Minor Ruler and if possible two or three carefully selected companions of his own age should be associated with him. The Guardian should accompany him to College or superintend his education in his State, as the case may be, and while joining in his sports and games, be responsible for the strict bringing up of the Minor. He should also see that those responsible for the moral and religious teaching of the Minor Prince are not neglecting their duties. The Guardian should be in frequent communication with the Minor's mother or whoever stands "in loco parentis" and with his religious teachers, or any others in the State who are in a position to have a say in his bringing up and who are known to have his best interests at heart.

6. Two years before his coming of age or at about the age of 16th the Minor Ruler should begin his training in administration work. As a preliminary to his doing this it is essential that he shall be taught the principles of Law (Hindu, Muhammadan, and the most important Acts of the legislature) and be well grounded in the rules in force in his State governing all the important Departments. He should also be conversant with the principles of Budget and State Finance. He should then acquire knowledge of the working of the various Departments of the State, a selected official of the Department concerned attending and explaining the constitution and cost of the Department, and the way the work is carried on. Files of cases dealt with by the Department should then be studied. Under the guidance of his Guardian the young Ruler should make notes of what is shown him and it should rest with the Guardians to keep all important facts focussed before his memory. A number of files already dealt with and settled by the Department concerned can be gone through and the Minor Ruler taught to record the facts and write his decisions or orders on them. Every variety of Revenue, Jagir, and Succession case can be gone through in this manner, as also Civil and Criminal cases and appeals. The young Ruler should also attend Courts of Law and see how cases are conducted.

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8. While practical training in administrative work is going on, the Minor Prince should also study with his Tutor theoretical problems bearing on such State work. He should also study important questions of the day, History, especially of India and his own State, Biographies, English Literature, and healthy books of fiction. The study of the systems of Parliamentary Government and of the British Government of India, &c., should also claim his attention. As the time draws near for the young Ruler to assume ruling powers, he should read up the correspondence between the British Government and the State and between the Ruler and his Ministers, and should study all the Treaties and Agreements between his State and the British Government. He should also attend meetings of the Council and take part in their deliberations.

9. The physical training including manly sports and games of the Minor Ruler is also of the highest importance and where possible his military training should be carried on in the State side by side with his administrative training.

10. Throughout the training of the Minor Ruler times should be fixed for him to meet his relations, and also for him to receive Nobles or others in audience in the presence of his Guardian.

11. Ordinarily it is not desirable that young Rulers should be absent from their States during the period of administrative training, except for necessary reasons or for a well-earned holiday.

12. Particular attention should be paid to the selection of a well qualified conscientious and sympathetic Tutor or Guardian of suitable age. The Minor Ruler's relations or those responsible for his bringing up should nominate the Tutor or Guardian for the approval of the Government of India.

13. In the event of the Minor Ruler being sent to Europe for any part of his education, it is essential that the principles, recorded herein, regarding proper supervision and guardianship, should apply. It is generally desirable, where possible, that the Minor Ruler should be accompanied by one or more relations or Sirdars, who would keep him in touch with the customs and manners of his own people or that such other arrangements as are possible should be made with this object in view.

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(B)

(Confidential.)

No. 1894-I. A.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FOREIGN AND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

RESOLUTION.

Simla, the 27th August 1917.

The Government of India have for some time past devoted special consideration to the question of the principles which should be observed in connection with the administration of a Native State during a minority. The opinion of certain Ruling Princes and Chiefs and of Political Officers were obtained by the Government of India during Lord Hardinge's Viceroyalty and the question in some of its aspects came under discussion at the Conference of Ruling Princes and Chiefs recently held at Delhi. The Governor-General in Council, after full consideration of the views elicited, has, with the approval of the Secretary of State, decided that the policy of Government in the matter may appropriately be stated as follows :—

The Government of India recognise that they are the trustees and custodians of the rights, interests and traditions of Native States during a minority administration. Their general policy is laid down in the following extract from certain orders, which were issued some years ago for the guidance of Political Officers :—

> "The Governor-General in Council is opposed to anything like pressure on Darbars to introduce British methods of administration. He prefers that reforms should emanate from the Darbar, and grow up in harmony with the traditions of the State. Administrative efficiency is at no time the only or indeed the chief object to be kept in view. This should specially be borne in mind by officers charged temporarily with the administration of a State during a minority, whether they are in sole charge, or associated with a State Council. They occupy a position of peculiar trust, and should never forget that their primary duty is the *conservation* of the customs of the State. Abuses and corruption should be corrected as far as possible, but the general system of administration to which the Chief and the people have become accustomed should be unchanged in all essentials. The methods sanctioned by tradition in States are generally well adapted to the needs and relations of the Ruler and people. The loyalty of the latter to the former is generally a personal loyalty, which administrative efficiency, if carried out on lines unsuited to local conditions, would lessen or impair."

The Government of India realise that the special conditions of each State require special treatment and will be glad to receive and consider requests by individual Ruling Princes or Chiefs regarding any principles which they may wish to be adopted in the case of their own States or families. Due weight will be attached to wishes so expressed or to any written or verbal instructions left on record, but the Government of India on whom the final responsibility rests must reserve to themselves full freedom of action in dealing with such requests or instructions. Subject to the foregoing observations, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to lay down the following general

principles for the conduct of minority administrations. The announcement is subject to the reservation that the principles laid down will be liable to relaxation in individual cases where special conditions may render their strict application inappropriate :—

Principles to be observed during minority administrations.

(1) The administration of a State during a minority should ordinarily be entrusted to a Council. In cases where the appointment of a Regent is in accordance with the custom of the State and a suitable person is available for nomination as Regent the Council should be styled a "Council of Regency," and should consist of three to five Indian Members under the presidency of the Regent. The Regent may be either a legitimate mother or widow or a near male relative of the late Ruler, provided that the latter was in the full confidence of the late Ruler at the time of his demise. Where no Regent is available, the Council should be styled a "Council of Administration," and should consist of three to five Indian Members presided over by an Indian administrator of proved experience of Indian States.

In the selection of the Councillors, local talent should be utilised to the utmost possible extent—preference being always given to persons with vested interests in the State so long as they possess the requisite qualifications.

Where local conditions appear to render it impossible for a Council to administer the State successfully, an officer borrowed from Government service may be appointed as Superintendent or Administrator of the State.

Where expressly desired by the late Ruler the minority administration should in important matters consult with Ruling Princes or Chiefs nominated by him for this purpose.

(2) Old traditions and customs of the State should be scrupulously observed and maintained.

[The word "customs" includes, among other things—

(*a*) the payment to the minor Prince or Chief and to members of his family, on all occasions, of due consideration by all officers serving in the State ;

(*b*) the maintenance of the dignity of the minor Prince or Chief by the strict observance of the customary ceremonial honours and courtesies due to him by officers of the Imperial Government and by other Rulers ; and

(*c*) the performance on due date of religious ceremonies, festivals, and social observances, including the exchange of presents with other States.]

(3) The regulations and records embodying the established policy of the State should be carefully studied. Except in the case of obvious and unmistakeable abuses, radical changes (such as important constitutional reforms, alteration of the Court language or of the postal, taxation, or currency systems, etc.) should, as a general rule, be avoided. Any new measures adopted should, so far as circumstances permit, be grafted on and assimilated to existing institutions in the State, and should be so designed, introduced and carried into effect, that they can be continued by the regular administration after the termination of the minority. Where any radical change, or any important measure which is contrary to the express wishes or policy of the late Ruler, is proposed, the matter should be referred with full particulars to the Government of India for decision.

(4) For appointments in the State service local talent should be used wherever possible. Where local talent is not available, outsiders may be imported for special purposes, but these should be strictly required to conform to local conditions and customs and to show due respect to the members of the ruling family. When the services of outsiders are engaged, their deputation should ordinarily be liable to termination at the discretion of the Ruler after he receives his powers. Persons who are known to have been disloyal or obnoxious to the late Ruler or his family should not be appointed to State service during a minority.

(5) Treaty rights should be strictly upheld and measures involving any modification of existing treaties and engagements should be avoided. No alteration should be made affecting the recognised political status of fiefs under the suzerainty of a Darbar or their customary relations with the Ruler and his State.

(6) No jagirs or hereditary or personal honours and distinctions should be granted or promised on behalf of the State during the minority, nor should such jagirs, honours, &c., be confiscated except for disloyalty or gross misconduct. Customary jagirs and maintenance allowances granted by the late Ruler to members of the Ruling family and others should ordinarily be maintained, and no increase or decrease or new grant should be allowed except for special reasons and with the sanction of the Government of India or other political authority to whom this power may be delegated; such sanction would apply only to the period of the minority.

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(8) In States where a distinction is made between State and Privy Purse funds, the fixed Privy Purse allowance, if on a reasonable scale, should be paid by the State without reduction to the minor Ruler and kept in trust for him, together with the private property bequeathed to him by the late Ruler, until he attains majority. Expenditure from Privy Purse funds should be limited to the usual and customary items of expenditure.

(9) The sale of State jewellery during a minority should ordinarily be avoided. If such is found absolutely necessary to meet debts, great care should be taken in the selection of the articles to be sold, and the wishes of members of the Ruler's family should be consulted and respected. Proposals for such sales should be referred to Government and their sanction obtained before the proposal is carried out.

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No. 1894-I. A.

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(7) Interference with the private property, estates, or establishments of members of the Ruling family should be avoided, and the customary and reasonable presents, easements, &c., to them and their dependents, should not ordinarily be curtailed.

(8) In States where a distinction is made between State and Privy Purse funds, the fixed Privy Purse allowance, if on a reasonable scale, should be paid by the State without reduction to the minor Ruler and kept in trust for him, together with the private property bequeathed to him by the late Ruler, until he attains majority. Expenditure from Privy Purse funds should be limited to the usual and customary items of expenditure.

(9) The sale of State jewellery during a minority should ordinarily be avoided. If such is found absolutely necessary to meet debts, great care should be taken in the selection of the articles to be sold, and the wishes of members of the Ruler's family should be consulted and respected. Proposals for such sales should be referred to Government and their sanction obtained before the proposal is carried out.

(10) No State territory or other immovable property should be exchanged, ceded, or sold during a minority.

(11) No permanent rights or privileges should be granted by the minority administration to jagirdars, officials or subjects of the State.

(12) No permanent or long-term commercial concessions or monopolies should ordinarily be granted to individuals or companies. It should, however, be borne in mind that neither individuals nor companies would be willing to sink any considerable capital sum in undertakings for short periods, and in each case, therefore, the rule must be applied cautiously with regard to the best interests of the State concerned, in order that the development of important and valuable industries may not be hindered.

(13) Expenditure on new palaces intended for a Ruler's own use should be avoided. Outlay on public works generally should be undertaken with due regard to economy and limited to necessary works. The expenditure should be so regulated as to come within the ordinary income of the year and to leave a substantial annual balance. Expenditure from surplus and reserve funds should be limited to really productive or protective works and should not be undertaken without careful examination and expert advice.

(14) Communication with the ladies of the palace should be conducted according to the custom of the State. Palace arrangements existing in the time of the late Ruler should not ordinarily be altered, and nothing should be done contrary to *zenana* etiquette and custom.

(15) The education and training of the young Ruler should be conducted on the lines laid down in the report* of the Committee convened to consider the matter. As a general rule it is preferable that he should receive his education in India rather than in Europe.

* *Vide* Appendix attached.

(16) Care should be taken to maintain shooting preserves and the necessary establishment for their maintenance, where such exists. Shooting rules and restrictions observed in the time of the late Ruler should be strictly enforced.

(17) The Political Officer is answerable to the Government of India for the maintenance of these principles. The degree of supervision to be exercised by him will depend on the circumstances of each particular case.

ORDERED that the Resolution be communicated to all* Local Governments and Administrations and to Political Officers in India, for information and guidance.

* Omitting Burma, North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan and Nepal.

J. B. WOOD,

Political Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.
The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of Assam.
The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.
The Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad.
The Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.
The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.
The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.
The Resident at Baroda.
The Resident in Kashmir.
The Political Officer in Sikkim.

Appendix.

Report of the Committee convened to consider the question of the education and training of Minor Rulers.

For purposes of this discussion we have assumed that ruling powers will ordinarily be assumed by the Minor Ruler at the age of 18 years.

2. As a diversity of opinion exists as to the desirability of the Minor Prince receiving any portion of his training in Europe, the Committee are not in a position to make any recommendations on the subject.

3. Without attempting to draw up a regular curriculum, which can be safely left to those responsible for the scholastic education of the young Prince, we wish to emphasize that his studies should take such form as may best develop his mental faculties, and that it is most essential that he should acquire such a thorough knowledge of the English language as will enable him to talk and read it, and express and record his thoughts in that language with facility. He must also of course be thoroughly at home in the vernacular of his State.

4. Where such vernacular is not that generally spoken in other parts of India a colloquial knowledge of Hindi or Urdu is desirable.

5. During the period of his early education the Tutor or Guardian should ordinarily reside with the Minor Ruler and if possible two or three carefully selected companions of his own age should be associated with him. The Guardian should accompany him to College or superintend his education in his State, as the case may be, and while joining in his sports and games, be responsible for the strict bringing up of the Minor. He should also see that those responsible for the moral and religious teaching of the Minor Prince are not neglecting their duties. The Guardian should be in frequent communication with the Minor's mother or whoever stands "in loco parentis" and with his religious teachers, or any others in the State who are in a position to have a say in his bringing up and who are known to have his best interests at heart.

6. Two years before his coming of age or at about the age of 16th the Minor Ruler should begin his training in administration work. As a preliminary to his doing this it is essential that he shall be taught the principles of Law (Hindu, Muhammadan, and the most important Acts of the legislature) and be well grounded in the rules in force in his State governing all the important Departments. He should also be conversant with the principles of Budget and State Finance. He should then acquire knowledge of the working of the various Departments of the State, a selected official of the Department concerned attending and explaining the constitution and cost of the Department, and the way the work is carried on. Files of cases dealt with by the Department should then be studied. Under the guidance of his Guardian the young Ruler should make notes of what is shown him and it should rest with the Guardians to keep all important facts focussed before his memory. A number of files already dealt with and settled by the Department concerned can be gone through and the Minor Ruler taught to record the facts and write his decisions or orders on them. Every variety of Revenue, Jagir, and Succession case can be gone through in this manner, as also Civil and Criminal cases and appeals. The young Ruler should also attend Courts of Law and see how cases are conducted.

7. The Minor Ruler should tour in his State and thus acquire knowledge of localities, and of the people inhabiting them, as also of the local landowners and jagirdars. He should be shown in the most practical manner how survey and settlement work is done, how *jamabandi* is carried out, revenue collected and village records kept. He can be shown selected fields, and have the cost of production, the value of the crop, the State demand, and the profit left to the cultivator, all explained to him. He can study the indebtedness of cultivators and the interest they have to pay, and other economic problems connected with the welfare of the village community. He can also be shown the work of District Offices and Tahsils and the tour can be utilised to afford opportunities for the Minor Ruler to acquire facility in replying to addresses.

8. While practical training in administrative work is going on, the Minor Prince should also study with his Tutor theoretical problems bearing on such State work. He should also study important questions of the day, History, especially of India and his own State, Biographies, English Literature, and healthy books of fiction. The study of the systems of Parliamentary Government and of the British Government of India, &c., should also claim his attention. As the time draws near for the young Ruler to assume ruling powers, he should read up the correspondence between the British Government and the State and between the Ruler and his Ministers, and should study all the Treaties and Agreements between his State and the British Government. He should also attend meetings of the Council and take part in their deliberations.

9. The physical training including manly sports and games of the Minor Ruler is also of the highest importance and where possible his military training should be carried on in the State side by side with his administrative training.

10. Throughout the training of the Minor Ruler times should be fixed for him to meet his relations, and also for him to receive Nobles or others in audience in the presence of his Guardian.

11. Ordinarily it is not desirable that young Rulers should be absent from their States during the period of administrative training, except for necessary reasons or for a well-earned holiday.

12. Particular attention should be paid to the selection of a well qualified conscientious and sympathetic Tutor or Guardian of suitable age. The Minor Ruler's relations or those responsible for his bringing up should nominate the Tutor or Guardian for the approval of the Government of India.

13. In the event of the Minor Ruler being sent to Europe for any part of his education, it is essential that the principles, recorded herein, regarding proper supervision and guardianship, should apply. It is generally desirable, where possible, that the Minor Ruler should be accompanied by one or more relations or Sirdars, who would keep him in touch with the customs and manners of his own people or that such other arrangements as are possible should be made with this object in view.

SAYAJI RAO,
Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda.
RAO KHENGARJI,
Maharao of Cutch.
RANJIT SINHJI,
Jam Sahib of Navanagar.
TUKOJIRAO PUAR,
of Dewas (Senior).
JITENDRA NARAYAN BHUP,
of Cooch Behar.
JAGATJIT SINGH,
Maharaja of Kapurthala.
GANGA SINGH,
Maharaja of Bikaner.
BHAWANI SINGH,
Raj Rana of Jhalawar.
J. B. WOOD,
Political Secretary.
C. J. WINDHAM,
Resident, Western Rajputana States.
B. EGERTON,
Sadr-ul-Maham, Paigah, Hyderabad State.

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G. R. S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

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Diary No. of letter replied to.....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

( )

, the *191*

Date of issue 18th Oct 1917

Signed by S. Balasundaram Iyer

Section Gen

File No. 329-17

Serial No. 3

D. O. No. Pol. 387

To

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the four copies of the resolution of the Govt. of India on the subject of the Minority Administrations in Native States kindly forwarded with your D.O. letter no. 7665 of the 6th instt.

Yours Sincerely

U/13/10/17

Major E. H. S. James,
First Asst. to the
Hon'ble the Resident

over.